

REMARKS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

Claims 1, 4-9, and 12-14 are rejected as being anticipated by Willems et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,804,813). Claims 2, 3, 10, and 11 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 2. Claims 2, 10, 12, 13, and 14 have been cancelled and claims 3 and 11 have been amended to change their dependencies accordingly.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 1, 3-9, and 11 are allowable. An early indication thereof is respectfully requested.

It is submitted that this amendment places the application in condition for allowance or better form for appeal by restricting the issues on appeal, and thus, entry of this amendment is respectfully requested under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigning attorney if there are any questions regarding this Amendment or this application.

Applicants do not acquiesce to any assertion made by the Examiner that is not specifically addressed herein.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500845.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 21 April 2005

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